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Application No.: 10/666,615

Case No.: 58354US002

REMARKS

Claims 6, 8, 11, 35, 37, 40 and 62-116 are pending. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-10, 12-34, 36, 38-39, and 41-61 have been canceled. Claims 6, 66, 68, 76, 78, 86, 88, 97, 106, and 114 have been amended.

Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

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Interview Summary

The undersigned acknowledges with appreciation the telephone interview initiated by the Examiner on or about November 1, 2006, wherein the instant rejections were generally outlined along with possible solutions as outlined in the current Office Action.

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§ 112 Rejections

Claims 6, 62-72, 76-78, 86-88, 97, 106 and 114 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 is said to be indefinite as to the limitation "wherein the glass comprises ZrO₂," as defined in line 6, because line 4 already defines that this component is present.

The phrase "wherein the glass comprises ZrO₂," has been deleted from claim 6.

Claim 66 is said to be indefinite because "crushing to provide particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 66 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 67 is said to be indefinite because "grading the abrasive particles to provide a plurality of particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. This method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

This rejection has been addressed through the amendment of claim 66, from which claim 67 depends.

Claim 68 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 68 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

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Claim 76 is said to be indefinite because "crushing to provide particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 76 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 77 is said to be indefinite because "grading the abrasive particles to provide a plurality of particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

This rejection has been addressed through the amendment of claim 76, from which claim 77 depends.

Claim 78 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 78 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 86 is said to be indefinite because "crushing to provide particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 86 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 87 is said to be indefinite because "grading the abrasive particles to provide a plurality of particles" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making abrasive particles and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

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This rejection has been addressed through the amendment of claim 86, from which claim 87 depends.

Claim 88 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making a glass ceramic. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 88 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 97 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making abrasive particles. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 97 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Claim 106 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making abrasive particles. Further, it is said this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 106 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action, except the limitation added by claim 104 was not included. Rather, claim 106 was rewritten to combine claims 37 and 106 (but not 104). Support for this amendment can be found in the specification, for example, on page 6, lines 5-31, bridging paragraph, page 7, lines 1-2.

Claim 114 is said to be indefinite because "incorporating abrasive particles into an abrasive article" does not further limit a method of making abrasive particles. Further, it is said

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this method step would appear to be defining a method of making an abrasive article and not a method of making a glass ceramic.

Claim 114 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action.

In summary, Applicant submits that the rejection of claims 6, 62-72, 76-78, 86-88, 97, 106 and 114 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

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In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Allowance of the pending claims, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

March 8, 2007
Date

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